

Minutes of a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life Held on APRIL 18, 1997 at 10:00am, Hall 769

Present: Dr. D. Boisvert, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Dr. S.M. Graub, Ms A. Kerby, Ms A. Ghadban, Mr. H. Zarins, Professor B. Barbieri, Ms J. Starkman, Ms S. Kiruluta, Ms M. West, Ms C. Hughes, Ms L. Lipscombe, Mr. M. Bujold, Mr. R. MacIver, Mr. A. Youness, Mr. A. Feldman

Absent with Regrets: Ms N. Torbit, Mr. R. Côté, Ms C. Cogger, Ms E. Robinson, Mr. A. Zakka, Dr. R. Bonin, Ms A. Vroom, Mr. R. Melkonian

Delegates: Ms G. Pannetta replaced Ms K. Hedrich, Ms C. Boujaklian replaced Dr. M. Barlow, Ms I. Sendek replaced Dr. Bonin

Guests: Mr. C. Emond, Mr. L. Lawton, Mr. K. Prudon, Ms C. Grace, Mr. S. Livingston

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Zarins and seconded by Ms C. Hughes. The agenda was approved without changes.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Boisvert informed Council that the Board of Governors had approved the Student Services fee increase for the next three years and that Student Accounts is on course to implement this fee for the summer session. Dr. Boisvert thanked Ms Kiruluta for speaking so eloquently at the Board of Governors meeting in support of the fee increase. He also took this opportunity to thank Mr. Feldman for acting as chair for the March CCSL meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MEETING OF MARCH 21, 1997

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Feldman seconded by Ms Kerby. The motion was carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Dr. Boisvert spoke briefly on the issue of the Co-Op bankruptcy. He has been meeting regularly with Mr. Emond, Legal Counsel, the Director of Financial Aid, and the Director of the Bookstores on various options that may be taken to assist our students. Mr. Emond informed Council that one of the options being considered is that the Concordia Computer Store would provide computers to those students who have paid for a computer but not received one. Over a period of time it would be expected that the Computer Store would be reimbursed through sales, new business, etc. The discussions are still on-going. The Financial Aid Office has confirmed that there are 45 students who paid for a computer but did not receive one. The total amount for those students is approximately \$120,000 (including warranties) which is less than initially expected.

However, Mr. Emond added that although the University's focus has been on Concordia students, students as far away as Quebec City have been affected. The total amount of the bankruptcy is estimated at \$700,000. He also reiterated that although the University has no legal responsibility, it is sympathetic to the students' predicament. However for legal reasons the University must be careful not to assume liability. Mr. Feldman suggested that Major Computer Stores, if approached by the University, may be interested in donating computers to these students. In this way they would be increasing their customer base and receiving positive publicity. He also felt this option could be investigated with companies who supply warranties. Dr. Boisvert said this possible solution has been noted.

Mr. Feldman asked for an update on the situation in the Centennial Building. This was actually an issue which had not been resolved from the March 1996 CCSL minutes. Mr. Feldman informed Council that there were still some Arts & Science Student Associations situated in the Centennial building as well as the P Annex. He felt it had been understood that the Faculties were to supply office space for their associations. The Faculty of Arts & Science has not as yet done this. Dr. Boisvert confirmed that Roger Côté, in his tenure as Acting Dean of Students, had done some research on this issue. Dr. Boisvert will investigate further and report back to Council at the May meeting.

5. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Mr. Feldman asked for clarification on the position of New Students Programme Coordinator. Dr. Boisvert said this position was essentially what had been previously called Orientation Coordinator. With the departure of Ms C. Sbrocchi, Dr. Boisvert felt it was important to move quickly to maintain this service. It will be a year-round position with a much broader scope than in previous years.

6. REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS

Dr. Boisvert turned the floor over to Mr. Zarins for a presentation by Recreation & Athletics. Mr. Zarins introduced the "team" from the department to discuss the various components of Athletics: Mr. Scott Livingston, Athletic Therapist/Strength & Conditioning Coach, Mr. Les Lawton, Head Coach, Women's Hockey Program/Equipment Coordinator, Ms Catherine Grace, Sports Information & Publications Coordinator and Mr. Keith Pruden, Women's Basketball Coach. Mr. Zarins pointed out that three of these staff members were former Concordia students. The presentation stressed the strides the department has made with respect to women's issues, academic support programs, fitness programs, student job opportunities and positive publicity. Newspaper articles, a video tape of Pulse News as well as an advance copy of "Sports Illustrated" all showed the important coverage our student athletes have generated through their commitment to their sport and to their University. Through their community involvement, volunteer activities, Sports Camps and their pursuit of excellence, both on and off the field, our student athletes are strong, positive ambassadors for our University. Dr. Boisvert thanked the Department of Athletics & Recreation for a most interesting and informative presentation.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a) Appointment to Recreation & Athletics Board: Dr. Boisvert proposed the following for ratification:

Dr. Boisvert	Dean of Students/Chair CCSL
Mr. C. Emond	Vice Rector Services
Mr. H. Zarins	Director, Recreation & Athletics
Ms J. Healy, Mr. S. Livingston	2 F.T. staff members
Mr. P. Shea	1 Alumni
Dr. J. Jans	1 Faculty member
Mr. J. St. Pierre, Ms. P. Van Doo	2 Varsity athletes
Mr. L. Pemberton, Ms H. Baragar	2 student recreational users
vacant	1 student at large

Mr. Feldman confirmed that the student at large vacancy will be filled at the next CSU Council meeting.

Ms Kerby moved acceptance of the appointments, seconded by Mr. Feldman. The membership was ratified.

b) Student-Operated Businesses & Activities: Role of the University:

Dr Boisvert referred Council to the document previously distributed. Mr. Emond spoke briefly on the present state of the Co-op. He indicated that although the Co-op was incorporated, what did that actually mean with reference to the University. Dr. Boisvert agreed, adding there is a need to clarify the legal relationship that may exist. Mr. Feldman felt that the Co-op should not be listed as a student-operated business. There is no requirement to his knowledge that the Co-op must be run by students. CUSACORP is a student-run organization. The Co-op is an external business leasing space. He sees the relationship between the Co-Op and the University as lessor and leasee. The question is then to what extent does the University become involved with a leasee. Professor Barbieri felt that the University should examine closely the issue of renting space to external organizations/businesses. Is the benefit to Concordia worth the risk? Could the space be better utilized by internal associations/departments? Mr. Emond pointed out the decision to allow the Co-Op to lease University space was done because the Government issued the loans through the Co-Op and any rent paid for an external location would have added to the sale price of the computers and equipment. He also added that the Co-Op seemed to be a successful venture until they decided to expand their services elsewhere in Quebec. The University would not have had any control over decisions regarding expansion. Ms West felt that the University must come to an agreement with all their tenants, not just the Co-op, with regard to how their business is conducted and how it is perceived by the students in relation to the University. Ms Kerby said that terms of reference or master agreements with student associations may have to be investigated. However it was felt that the use of Concordia in the Co-Op's name and their visible location on the Mezzanine all contributed to a understandable but erroneous perception by students that the Co-Op was part of the University. Mr. Emond pointed out that this perception applies not only to on campus businesses but to any business in the university vicinity that may use Concordia in their name. There is no copyright on the name Concordia. The issue was raised of having university

representation on the boards of student-run businesses , for example CUSACORP. Dr. Boisvert explained there was a distinction between student operated businesses and student activities but he asked whether it might be a good idea to formalize the support or assistance provided by the Dean of Students Office. In this way potential problems may be dealt with earlier on. Mr. Feldman felt that if a student organization asked for assistance or advice the Dean of Students should be available but he did not feel there was a need for a permanent, formal representation on the boards of student organizations or businesses. Dr. Graub raised the important question of what the role of the University should be with respect to the autonomy of students groups in terms of running their own affairs. Dr. Boisvert thanked Council for their input which is necessary to make an assessment of the situation.

8.NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be Friday, May 23 at 10:00am in AD 131

9.TERMINATION OF MEETING:

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Professor Barbieri, seconded by Mr. Feldman at 12:00noon.